

## Dean's Round-up: November 2024

### FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS



On Nov. 2, the Faculty of Science hosted a successful **Fall Campus Day** event for prospective students and families interested in learning more about the programs, community and facilities at York Science. The event featured tours of advanced laboratories and information sessions led by York Science professors. Science had the most registrants (1,254) amongst all faculties at York.

**Science Engagement Programs** offered a variety of in-person and online workshops that included:

- Hosting more than 100 students on campus for hands-on workshops. Students from McMurrich Junior Public School took part in physics and computer science

workshops, and participants via the Canadian Association for Girls in Science attended chemistry and forensic science activities.

- Conducting subsidized workshops in the community that reached 150 students. These workshops covered a range of topics from the importance of soil preservation to the science of creating musical art.
- Hosting six free online workshops for girls in STEM. These sessions covered diverse topics such as medical science, food science, astronomy 101, and the intriguing world of math in secret codes.
- Continuing the Black Youth Access Program in partnership with Skills for Change. This program featured full-day, in-person events on genetics and genealogy, the healthcare system and human biology, technology, and technology in sports. Highlights included a mentor talk with James Ehiagwina, president of the Canadian Black Nurses Alliance York University chapter, a heart dissection, building a self-automated vehicle, and conducting basketball and technology experiments in the Tait McKenzie Centre.

Chemistry Alumnus **Scott D. Tanner** (BSc'76, PhD'80) has generously funded two summer undergraduate research awards, named in honour of Distinguished Research Professor Emeritus **Diethard Bohme** (Chemistry) and Professor Emeritus **John Goodings** (Chemistry).

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## CONGRATULATIONS

York University's Asian Business & Management Program (ABMP) and the Faculty of Science were honoured with the ninth [Canada China Business Excellence Academic Collaboration Bronze Award](#) at the Canada China Business Council's 46th Annual General Meeting and Business Forum in Beijing.

Professor Emeritus **Paul Delaney** (Physics & Astronomy) had an [asteroid](#) named after him in honour of his public outreach activities for the public understanding of astronomy.

**Ozzy Mermut** (Physics & Astronomy) received a seed [grant from Connected Minds](#) for her project "Erasing the Racism in Optical Technologies."

Distinguished Research Professor **Jianhong Wu** (Mathematics & Statistics) was named a [Fellow of the American Mathematical Society](#).

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## MORE NEWS

The **Allan I. Carswell Observatory**, directed by **Elaina Hyde** (Physics & Astronomy), launched an online fundraiser. More details:

<https://www.yorku.ca/science/observatory/aico-fundraiser/>

The Faculty of Science **Committee on Teaching and Learning** hosted a talk by Andrew Dicks (University of Toronto) on “Promotion & Support of Teaching & Learning in Chemistry.”

**Robin Kingsburgh** (Science, Technology & Society) gave an invited talk titled “Colour is for Everyone: Teaching interdisciplinary colour foundations” at the [XIX Color Conference](#) organized by the Gruppo de Colore on Nov. 29.

**Sylvie Morin** (Chemistry) and **Sapna Sharma** (Biology) contributed to the development of the [York University Sustainability Strategy 2030](#).

**Iain Moyles** (Mathematics & Statistics) presented an invited workshop titled “The role of mathematics in public health: A showcase for the modeling of infectious diseases” at the University of Montreal's School of Public Health.

**Divya Sharma** (Biology) presented a CANSSI Showcase 2024 Lightning Talk titled “Beyond Traditional Statistics: Harnessing Machine Learning for Personalized Osteoarthritis Treatment with a Multimodal Deep Learning Approach” on Nov. 15, and an invited talk titled “Development of AI Tools to Address Clinical Nuances in Transplantation” at the Transplant AI Symposium 2024 hosted by the Ajmera Transplant Centre, University Health Network on Nov. 18.

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## RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Graduate student **Jie Lin**, graduate student **Ivan Monsalvo**, graduate student **Hyejung Kwon**, graduate student **Sarah Pullano** and **Nik Kovinich** (Biology) published [The WRKY Family Transcription Factor GmWRKY72 Represses Glyceollin Phytoalexin Biosynthesis in Soybean](#) in *Plants*.

**Mary H. Armour** (NATS), Joseph I. Boyce, Phillip Suttak, and Doug Hrvoic published [3-D Subsurface Geophysical Modeling of the Charity Shoal Structure: A Probable Late Proterozoic-Early Paleozoic Simple Impact Structure in Eastern Lake Ontario](#) in *Earth and Space Science*.

\*For a full list of publications from the Faculty of Science, see our [website](#).\*

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## MEDIA

Professor Emeritus **Paul Delaney** (Physics & Astronomy) spoke to *AM640* about the costs

for India to go to the moon and eventually Mars.

**Dasantila Golemi-Kotra** (Biology) was interviewed by [CBC News](#) about COVID-19 and flu vaccination rates in Manitoba.

**Patricia Lakin-Thomas** (Biology) spoke to [The Globe and Mail](#), [The Star](#), *CBC Radio* and other radio networks about the health impacts of time changes.

**Sarah Rugheimer** (Physics & Astronomy) was interviewed by the *iHeartRadio* network about leaks in the International Space Station and evacuation orders.

**Cora Young** (Chemistry)'s research on developing a method to assess per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances in the atmosphere was covered by the [Environmental & Science Engineering Magazine](#).

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## EVENTS

**February 11:** Faculty of Science Honours & Awards Celebration, 6 pm in Second Student Centre. *Invitations are coming soon.*

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